

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15  
USIA-06 ACDA-12 IO-13 SY-05 EB-08 MCT-01 /098 W  
-----002726 231345Z /50

R 231204Z DEC 77  
FM USMISSION USBERLIN  
TO AMEMBASSY BONN  
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 5925  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 USBERLIN 3230

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PORS, PGOV, BQG, AKB  
SUBJECT: PRESENCE OF BKA AND BGS IN BERLIN

REF: BONN 20886

SUMMARY: THE BGS PRESENCE IN BERLIN FOR PERSONAL PROTECTION IS DISCREET AND HAS, WE FEEL, SUFFICIENT BKA LEGAL COVER TO MAKE IT ACCEPTABLE (AND DEFENSIBLE). IN FACT, BGS PERSONNEL ARE HERE AS INDIVIDUALS AND ARE, FOR ALL PRACTICAL PURPOSES, BKA EMPLOYEES. ANOTHER, MURKIER AREA INVOLVING THE BGS IS THE QUESTION OF WHAT ROLE MIGHT BGS UNITS, OR PARTS OF UNITS, BE ASKED TO PLAY HERE (ASSUMING ALLIED APPROVAL WERE FORTHCOMING) IN THE EVENT OF A TERRORIST EMERGENCY IN BERLIN. WE HAVE OBTAINED SOME INFORMAL THOUGHTS FROM THE BERLIN POLICE ON THIS SUBJECT ADMITTING THAT THE BGS ADVISORS AND EQUIPMENT MIGHT BE USEFUL IN THE EVENT OF A HIJACKING OR KIDNAPPING. WE DOUBT THERE IS MUCH TO BE GAINED AT PRESENT FROM PURSUING THIS FURTHER WITH EITHER THE ALLIES OR THE BERLINERS. END SUMMARY.

1. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION IN PARA 1 OF REFTTEL, BUNDESKRIMINALAMT (BKA) MEMBERS AND BUNDESGRENZSCHUTZ (BGS)  
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PERSONNEL ASSIGNED TO THE BKA DO NOT REPEAT NOT WEAR UNIFORMS IN BERLIN. WE ARE TOLD THAT BGS PERSONNEL SERVING WITH THE BKA ARE FOR THE MOST PART UNDER LONG-TERM SECONDMENTS, TO MEET WHAT ARE EXPECTED TO BE LONG-TERM DEMANDS FOR PERSONAL PROTECTION WHICH WOULD EXCEED BKA CAPABILITIES USING ONLY ITS OWN PEOPLE. HOWEVER, SINCE THIS ARRANGEMENT TAKES PLACE IN THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC WE HAVE ONLY SECOND OR

THIRD HAND ACCESS TO THE FACTS. WE UNDERSTAND FROM THE POLICE HERE, WHO WILL BE PROVIDING US WITH A MORE EXACT BREAKDOWN OF BKA AND BGS PERSONNEL IN BERLIN, THAT ATTACHED BGS PERSONNEL ARE NOW BEING EMPLOYED IN A RATIO OF 3:2.

2. ON A RELATED SUBJECT, POSSIBLE FUTURE USE OF BGS PERSONNEL IN BERLIN FOR CONTINGENCIES OTHER THAN PERSONAL PROTECTION, THE ALLIED PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISERS RECENTLY HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO ASK POLICE CHIEF BOERNER INFORMALLY FOR HIS VIEWS. STRESSING THAT NO BGS INTERVENTION WAS NOW ENVISAGED, BOERNER FORESAW ONLY TWO POSSIBLE CONTINGENCIES IN WHICH BGS ASSISTANCE MIGHT BE DESIRABLE: ONE COULD BE A HIJACKING SITUATION LIKE THAT IN MOGADISCIO, THE OTHER THE SEARCH FOR KIDNAPPERS IN WHICH SOPHISTICATED RADIO-SIGNAL TRACING EQUIPMENT (NOT POSSESSED BY THE POLICE OF INDIVIDUAL LAENDER) MIGHT BE DESIRED, AS WAS TRIED HERE DURING THE LORENZ KIDNAPPING EPISODE.

3. BOERNER INDICATED THAT HIS THINKING REGARDING THE UTILITY OF HAVING BGS ASSISTANCE HERE IN THE EVENT OF AN ATTEMPT TO STORM A HIJACKED AIRCRAFT WAS HEAVILY INFLUENCED BY POLITICAL/PUBLIC RELATIONS CONSIDERATIONS. HE FELT THAT THE MOGADISCIO UNDERTAKING WAS ACCOMPANIED BY EXTRAORDINARY GOOD LUCK AND THE CHANCES ARE ALMOST NIL OF ANOTHER SUCH RESCUE BEING CARRIED OFF WITHOUT HEAVY CASUALTIES AMONG THE HOSTAGES AND/OR RESCUERS. CONFIDENTIAL

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BOERNER FEARED THAT IF BERLIN'S OWN CRACK SPECIAL EINSATZ KOMMANDO (SEK) FORCE ATTEMPTED A RESCUE AND THE RESULT WERE BLOODY, THE BERLINERS WOULD BE ACCUSED OF HAVING ACTED IN A FOOLHARDY MANNER OUT OF LOCAL PRIDE. SOME BGS INVOLVEMENT, PRESUMABLY IN AN ADVISORY CAPACITY AT LEAST, WOULD THEREFORE BE DESIRABLE TO AVOID SUCH AN OUTCOME.

4. COMMENT: BOERNER'S THINKING GOES SOMEWHAT FURTHER THAN WE HAVE ENCOUNTERED IN PREVIOUS DISCUSSIONS WITH OTHER TOP POLICE OFFICIALS. POLICE PRESIDENT HUEBNER HAS CONSISTENTLY MAINTAINED THAT THE SEK IS FULLY ADEQUATE TO HANDLE ANY CONTINGENCY HERE. POLICE CHIEF BOERNER PRESUMABLY DOES NOT DISPUTE THE ADEQUACY OF THE SEK, BUT WOULD PREFER TO BE ABLE TO SHARE WITH THE BGS RESPONSIBILITY FOR CASUALTIES. WE HAVE NOT PURSUED THIS HYPOTHETICAL QUESTION AT ANY LENGTH WITH POLITICAL AUTHORITIES, SUCH AS THE SENATOR FOR INNERES. WE WOULD

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-----010134 241035Z /10/50

R 231204Z DEC 77  
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 USBERLIN 3230

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (TEXT)

EXPECT, HOWEVER, TO FIND APPRECIATION BOTH OF ALLIED  
LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS AS WELL AS OF THE PRACTICAL DESIRABILITY  
IN CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES OF SOME BGS ASSISTANCE,  
CERTAINLY BUTTRESSED BY CONCERN THAT BERLIN IN ITS ANTI-  
TERRORIST ACTIONS HAVE COMPARABLE TOOLS AT ITS DISPOSAL  
TO THOSE AVAILABLE TO LAENDER IN THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC.

5. IN ELICITING BOERNER'S VIEWS OF COURSE THE  
ALLIED PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISERS WERE NOT SEEKING TO DE-  
TERMINE SPECIFIC CONTINGENCIES IN WHICH THE ALLIES WOULD  
PERMIT THE BGS TO COME HERE, BUT RATHER TO GET SOME  
ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLES OF CIRCUMSTANCES UNDER WHICH WE  
MIGHT REPEAT MIGHT FIND OURSELVES RECEIVING A REQUEST  
TO PERMIT BGS ASSISTANCE. WE HAVE NOT TAKEN THE MATTER  
FURTHER WITH THE BRITISH AND FRENCH HERE NOR SOUGHT TO  
DRAW UP CONTINGENCY PLANS FOR PUTTING A PROPER LEGAL  
FACE ON A BGS PRESENCE.

6. WE COULD OF COURSE FIND OURSELVES CONFRONTED AT ANY TIME  
BY AN EMERGENCY ANALOGOUS TO THE TWO DESCRIBED ABOVE.  
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BASED ON THE PRACTICAL AND LEGAL FACTORS AS THEY APPEAR  
AT PRESENT WE WOULD PROBABLY BE INCLINED TO SUPPORT A  
REQUEST BY THE BERLIN POLITIVAL AND POLICE AUTHORITIES FOR

LIMITED EMERGENCY USE HERE OF BGS EXPERTS AND, AS APPROPRIATE, EQUIPMENT. THE WHOLE THING WOULD HAVE TO BE UNDER BKA COVER AND WE SEE NO REASON, GIVEN BERLIN'S OWN RATHER IMPRESSIVE CAPABILITIES, FOR THE BGS NOT TO REMAIN IN THE BACKGROUND IN A SUPPORTIVE, PERHAPS ADVISORY CAPACITY. IT SEEMS TO US PROBLEMATIC UNDER WHAT CIRCUMSTANCES THE BRITISH AND FRENCH WOULD AGREE. THERE IS A STRONG CONTINUING BUILT-IN AVERSION. HOWEVER, TO ATTEMPT TO PURSUE THIS MATTER NOW IN THE ABSTRACT IN ORDER TO SEEK CONTINGENCY APPROVAL MIGHT MERELY STIFFEN RESISTANCE TO COOPERATION IN AN ACTUAL EMERGENCY. WE PREFER, THEREFORE, TO LET THE MATTER QUIETLY PERCOLATE ALONG FOR THE TIME BEING. THE IMMEDIATE ISSUE, USE OF THE BGS FOR PERSONAL PROTECTION, SEEMS IN HAND. GEORGE

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**To:** BONN  
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